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NEWPORT PAGNELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1946

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1946. As in previous years it is divided into Sections, each Section dealing with one aspect of Public Health.

SECTION A. deals with Statistics. In order not to delay unduly my Report, I have given the Vital Statistics for 1945 as those for 1946 are not yet to hand. I propose to issue a Supplement later giving the Vital Statistics for 1946.

SECTION B. deals with various services as Ambulance, Emergency Laboratory service. As no changes have taken place in these services, they call for little comment.

SECTION C. deals with Water, Drainage & Sewerage, and Scavenging.

Water I have reviewed the various public supplies and given a list of Parishes supplied from each source and the number of new connections made during the year.

Drainage & Sewerage No marked change has taken place in this service. I have endeavoured by means of tables to show the methods of drainage etc. in each Parish.

Scavenging There has been some improvement in this service, notably the new scavenging service in the Northern Division which was begun in October, 1945. I hope new vehicles will soon be available for the Southern Division. A collection of ashes in several parishes was put into operation during the year.

SECTION D. deals with Housing. I have endeavoured to give an over all picture of the position in those Parishes in which new houses have been or are being built and in which building is contemplated in the near future.

SECTION E. deals with food production and inspection. Considerable work has been done by way of inspection and bringing about improvements.

SECTION F. deals with Infectious Diseases. On the whole the incidence has been smaller than in previous years. There have been no serious epidemics. Diphtheria Immunisation has been maintained. In all, 173 children were immunised during the year, 117 under 5, and 56 between 5 - 15 years.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	61,686.
Number of Inhabited Houses	4344
Rateable Value	£60,756.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£248. 5. 7d.
Estimated Population (R.G. 1945)	12,990

VITAL STATISTICS (For 1945)

Total Births	227
Males Legitimate	109
" Illegimitate	10
Females Legitimate	96
" Illegitimate	12
Birth Rate per 1,000	17.47

DEATHS

Total	171
Males	79
Females	92
Estimated Population	12,990
Death Rate per 1,000	13.16

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.

Total	8
Males Legitimate	5
" Illegitimate	-
Females Legitimate	2
" Illegitimate	1

Deaths from Diarrhoea

(Under 2 years of age) ... ... Females	2

SECTION B.

There has been no changes in the various services under this heading. The Emergency Laboratory service at the Northampton Hospital has rendered valuable service. Most of the investigations have been the examination of throat swabs. The Medical Practitioners throughout the District are fully alive to the importance of having swabs examined in cases of sore throat. Immunization has, in my opinion, modified the appearance of throats in cases of Diphtheria and thus increased the difficulty of diagnosing such cases on clinical grounds alone.

SECTION C.

W A T E R

Olney Source

Quantity

With the improvements mentioned in my last Report supplies have been fully maintained throughout the year. There has been a considerable increase in the demand for water both from farms and domestic users. The daily output has increased from 100,000 gallons to 120,000 gallons.

Quality

Bacteriological examination made during the year shows that the treated water was of a high degree of bacterial purity.

During the year an improved system of softening was put in operation with satisfactory results, but at the present time, there is difficulty in obtaining the quantity and quality of Lime necessary for softening purposes.

I append a list of Parishes supplied from this source, together with the connections made during the year.

Parish	No. of connections to houses.	No. of standpipes for 2 or more cottages
Castlethorpe	5	
Clifton Reynes	1	
Emberton	13	1
Hanslope	6	
Lavendon	21	
Newton Blossomville	1	
Olney	42	2
Ravenstone	1	
Stoke Goldington	6	
Weston Underwood	1	

Stoke Goldington is supplied in part from the Olney supply and in part from a piped supply from Springs under the supervision of the Parish Council.

Tyringham receives its supply from the Estate supply. It has proved satisfactory during the year.

Filgrave This Parish is supplied from Springs.

Gayhurst from the Estate supply derived from Springs.

W A T E R

Birchmoor Source

From this source Parishes in the Southern Division for the most part are supplied. The Reservoir for this source is at Bow Brickhill. It has a capacity of 350,000 gallons. The water is distributed by gravitation.

Quantity

Some difficulty has been experienced in maintaining the pressure to the villages of North Crawley, Astwood and Hardmead. The result has been that the supply has been intermittent and has caused considerable inconvenience to the inhabitants. The Council has given instructions for improvements. When these improvements have been carried out, it is hoped that these villages will receive a constant supply. Apart from this, the supply has been well maintained.

The following is a list of Parishes supplied from this source and the number of new connections made during the year.

Parish	No. of connections to houses.	No. of standpipes for 2 or more cottages.
Astwood	1	
Bradwell	3	
Bow Brickhill	7	
Broughton	-	3
Chicheley	-	-
Hardmead	2	
Loughton	2	
Milton Keynes	7	
Moulsoe	1	
North Crawley	3	
Shenley Church End	2	
Sherington	11	
Walton	9	
Wavendon	5	
Woburn Sands	-	-
Willen & Woolstone	3	
Woughton	-	-

Little Brickhill receives its supply from the Bucks Water Board.

Great Linford Supply

This source was acquired by the Council in October, 1945. The supply is from a well sunk in gravel. From here the water is pumped to a reservoir at the top of the village. From this it is distributed to properties by gravitation.

Since acquisition the water has been constantly under review and several important improvements made. These are :-

1. Two new Electric Pumps have been installed.
2. Chlorinating Plant Installed.
3. Reservoir has been thoroughly cleaned out and brushed with cement.

Quality

As a result of these improvements bacteriological examination shows that Bac.Coli and B. Welchii are absent and the Analyst reports that the water is of satisfactory bacterial purity and fit for a public supply.
Six connections were made from this supply during the year.

WATER

Haversham Supply

Source

It is derived from Springs situated in a field. The water is piped and conveyed to a concrete collecting chamber. These pipes are loose jointed.

From the collecting chamber the water is pumped to water Towers. There are two towers holding 7,500 gallons and 1,500 gallons respectively.

The daily consumption is 10,000 which is sufficient for the area supplied. This area comprises 140 houses on the New Estate, Manor Farm and the School. The water receives no treatment.

Quality

On the whole satisfactory, but at one period after heavy rain one analysis showed slight contamination.

The Old Village of Haversham does not receive its supply from this source. It is supplied from Springs and shallow wells. The wells are protected from contamination, but nevertheless there is risk of contamination and I hope that a piped supply will soon be made available.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE

Under this heading no great change has taken place. The various Sewage Schemes awaiting development have not yet been put in hand. The existing schemes have worked satisfactorily. Some improvements have been made in sanitary accommodation and drainage at isolated properties.

The following Table shows the position of each Parish as regards Drainage & Sewerage.

Parishes that already have Sewerage Disposal Schemes

Little Brickhill
Sherington
Olney
Woburn Sands

Parishes for which Sewage Schemes have been prepared

Castlethorpe	- At present piped sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.
Emberton	- At present piped sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.
Hanslope	- At present piped sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.
Lavendon	- At present piped sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.
Bradwell	- At present piped sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.
Bow Brickhill	- At present piped sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE

Parishes having sewers discharging into sewer ditches

Astwood
Broughton
Cold Brafield
Chicheley
Lathbury
Great Linford. Sewer discharges into large pond.
Loughton
Milton Keynes
Newton Blossomville
North Crawley
Stoke Goldington
Weston Underwood
Haversham.

Cesspool Drainage

Hardmead (Some houses)
Moulsoe
Olney Park
Shenley Church End
Tyringham & Filgrave
Walton
Warrington
Woolstone
Woughton Also piped sewer to ditch.

S C A V E N G I N G

Northern Division

The new scavenging service, started in October, 1945 has worked very satisfactorily during the year. It has proved a great boon especially to those Parishes not previously scavenged.

The use of the night soil lagoon at Olney has been discontinued owing to complaints from residents and a further lagoon has been constructed at Stoke Goldington gravel pits.

Southern Division

Two vehicles, the same as used in the Northern district are on order, but have not yet been delivered owing to shortage of supply.

During the year a scheme for the collection of ashes was put into operation for the following parishes, Shenley Church End, Loughton, Willen, Woolstone, Woughton, Walton, Milton Keynes, Broughton and Moulsoe.

The Combined Scavenging Scheme mentioned in my last Report has worked satisfactorily during the year.

SECTION D.

H O U S I N G

Considerable progress has been made with the Housing Scheme during the year. I am setting out the position in each Parish in which housing has been commenced or is contemplated at the present time.

Northern Division

Astwood

The Ministry of Health have approved a site of 1½ acres for the erection of 8 houses. The Architect has been instructed to prepare lay out and house plans for these houses.

Clifton Reynes

A site has not been finally selected. A site of 2 acres was provisionally selected, but the Regional Planning Officer was unable to give clearance of this site. He suggested alternative sites, but at the end of the year no definite decision had been made.

Emberton

A site of 3½ acres to the west of West Lane was selected by the Council. This is a very good site. However, objections were raised and matters dragged on until the end of the year. Finally, the Ministry of Health held a Local Inquiry and have now approved of the site. It is proposed to erect 24 houses in the parish.

Gayhurst

The Council recommended a site adjoining the old Bath House cottage. It is a good site and the situation excellent. Most of the present cottages in the village are unfit, and, in my opinion incapable of being made fit, and should ultimately be demolished. This site would allow of sufficient houses to be erected not only to replace old cottages, but also to provide fresh accommodation which is badly needed. I hope the negotiations will be satisfactorily concluded in the near future.

Hanslope

Four houses have been completed and occupied on the Castlethorpe Road site. Another site in the Northampton Road, opposite the existing Council houses has been approved by the Regional Planning Officer, and negotiations will now be undertaken for the purchase of this site.

Hardmead

A site of 1½ acres has been purchased. It is proposed to erect 12 houses on this site and plans are in preparation for submission to the Ministry of Health.

Haversham

A site of 2 acres near the old village on the road to Little Linford has been approved by the Ministry of Health, but not yet actually purchased. The houses to be erected on this site will meet the needs of both Haversham and Little Linford. The number proposed is 16.

Lathbury

A site of 1 acre has been acquired nearly opposite the Rectory. Plans are being prepared for 8 houses. These plans to be submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Lavendon

Four houses were completed and occupied during the year.

H O U S I N G (Contd)

North Crawley

The Parish Council suggested that the field adjoining the new Rectory would be a suitable building site. The Council considered this suggestion, but came to the conclusion that the site was unsuitable owing to drainage difficulty and that it was not likely the Regional Planning Officer would approve.

Olney

The first 8 houses, known as Section 1, are nearing completion and should be ready for occupation early in the New Year.

Another 8 houses, known as Section 2. are being erected. They consist of 2 blocks of four. Work was commenced in October and is proceeding.

Ravenstone

A site of 1 acre has been purchased. It is proposed to erect 8 houses on this site.

Sherington

Four houses on the existing site are in process of erection.

The Council consider that more houses are required in this Parish. Accordingly, a site was selected adjoining the existing houses and known as the Perry Lane site.

The Regional Planning Officer would, however, not approve of this site and suggested alternative ones. These the Council considered unsuitable. Negotiations are still going on for the approval of the Perry Lane site.

Stoke Goldington

A site of 3 acres situated to the west of the Northampton Road has been selected by the Council. The site is close to the village on the south side. Negotiations are taking place for the approval of this site. The owner is willing to sell.

Tyringham and Filgrave

A site of 1 acre adjoining the School at Filgrave has been selected by the Council.

Weston Underwood

The erection of 4 houses in this Parish has been deferred for the time being.

Southern Division

Bradwell

The site is 1½ acres. Tenders for 12 houses have been accepted by the Ministry of Health. The houses will consist of 1 block of four and four pairs.

Bow Brickhill

The site is 2 acres. 12 houses are to be built on this site consisting of two blocks of four and two pairs. Tenders for these houses have been accepted by the Ministry of Health and building should commence early in the New Year.

Little Brickhill

Site 1 acre. The erection of 6 houses, 1 block of four and 1 pair is proceeding and should be completed and ready for occupation early in the New Year.

H O U S I N G (Contd)

Castlethorpe

Four houses have been completed and occupied during the year. The Parish Council have asked for more houses.

Loughton

Four houses are in course of erection on the existing site. At the end of the year they were nearly ready for roof framing.

Moulsoe

Site is 3 acres. Plans have been submitted to the Ministry of Health for 24 houses. It is not proposed to build all these at once, so authorisation was requested for two blocks of four in the first instance. The tender for these 8 houses has been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health and building should be commenced early in the New Year.

Shenley Church End

After much negotiation it was decided that a site of 5 acres near the School be provisionally selected. The Regional Planning Officer has been requested to grant clearance.

Wavendon

Four houses have been completed during the year.

Woughton

Site 1 acre. Eight houses are in course of erection.

Woburn Sands

The site in this Parish is 5 acres. Plans for the erection of 32 houses have been approved by the Ministry of Health and building has commenced. The layout is in three sections.

Section A. consists of 3 blocks of 4.
Section B. consists of 1 block of 4 and two pairs.
Section C. consists of 2 blocks of 4 and two pairs.

SECTION E.

F O O D

The usual routine inspections have been carried out. 1486. lbs. of food stuffs found diseased or unsound have been found unfit for human consumption. This food was condemned and suitably disposed of.

M I L K

Wholesale

12 Cowsheds have been reconditioned during the year.

One producer was prohibited from producing milk owing to the unsatisfactory condition of the premises. Otherwise the quality of the milk has been maintained.

Retail

Supplies, other than graded, have been tested. Where found unsatisfactory, prompt action has been taken and the trouble found eliminated.

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

TABLE 1.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1946.

Disease	Total Cases Notified Civilian	Non-Civilian	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	8		6	
Diphtheria	1		1	
Pneumonia	4			
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2		2	
Measles	19			
Whooping Cough	33			

The cases occurred in the following Parishes

	Parish	Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever	Castlethorpe	1		1
	Hanslope	1		1
	Broughton		1	1
	Milton Keynes	2	2	4
	Old Bradwell		1	1
	Total	4	4	8
Diphtheria	Warrington		1	1
	Total		1	1
Pneumonia	Bow Brickhill	2		2
	Little Brickhill		1	1
	Shenley Church End		1	1
	Total	2	2	4
Cerebro Spinal Fever	Castlethorpe	2		2
Measles	Old Bradwell	1	1	2
	Lavendon		1	1
	North Crawley	6	9	15
	Lathbury	1		1
	Total	8	11	19

M. O. H. Annual Report (Contd)

Disease	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Pneumonia		Cerebro Spinal Fever		Measles		Whooping Cough	
Age Period	Notifications	Admitted to Hospital	N.	A. to H.	N.	A. to H.	N.	A. to H.	N.	A. to H.	N.	A. to H.
Under 1 Year											3	
1 - 2 years											5	
2 - 3 "									2		6	
3 - 4 "	1				1				1		1	
4 - 5 "							1	1	2		4	
5 - 10 "	2	2			1		1	1	10		12	
10 - 15 Years	1								1		2	
15 - 20 "	2	2										
20 - 35 "	1	1	1	1					2			
35 - 45 "					1				1			
45 - 65 "	1	1										
Over 65 Years					1							
Total	8	6	1	1	4		2	2	19		33	

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Contd)

Whooping Cough	Parish	Male	Female	Total
	Haversham	1	1	2
	Olney	3	4	7
	Ravenstone		2	2
	Bow Brickhill	3	5	8
	Broughton	1	1	2
	Astwood	1	3	4
	Gt. Woolstone	1	1	2
	Old Bradwell	1	5	6
	Total	11	22	33

TABLE III

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases notified during 1946

Age Period	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year				
1 - 5 years			1	
5 - 10 years				
10 - 15 years				
15 - 20 years				
20 - 25 years		2		
25 - 35 years		1		
35 - 45 years				
45 - 55 years				
55 - 65 years				
Over 65 years		1		

I have set out the incidence of Infectious Diseases in tabular form as in previous years. On the whole, the prevalence of these diseases has been less than in previous years.

Whooping Cough

The cases of this disease has been the most numerous. They have been widely distributed throughout the District, and, for the most part, of a mild character. There were 33 cases in all.

Measles have been of a mild type. There were 19 cases in all, 15 of which occurred in North Crawley. This was the only parish in which there was an outbreak. Measles is difficult to control, the reason being that it is infectious at an early stage before the disease has declared itself. Consequently children mix with others, especially at school, when already infectious, and so spread the disease.

/The majority

Measles (Contd) The majority of children have Measles at some time during childhood and when once it starts among a community most children who are susceptible (i.e. those who have not already had an attack) contract the disease.

Scarlet Fever There were only 8 cases. Six were sent to Hospital and two isolated at home. They were distributed among 5 parishes. Thus the cases were sporadic and no serious outbreak occurred.

Diphtheria Only 1 case was notified. This was a girl aged 25 who had not been immunized and she contacted the disease outside the district.

Pneumonia Only 4 cases were notified. I attribute the slight incidence to the mild winter. In a severe winter incidence is always higher especially among young children and old people. It is in these classes that it is most serious.

The Health of the District has been good throughout the year in spite of shortages and generally difficult conditions.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION

As I mentioned in my last Report, the County Council is now responsible for the immunisation of children under 5, and this Council responsible for children between 5 - 15 years.

Schools

During the year I visited 8 schools. At these schools 78 children were immunised, 53 between 5 - 15 years and 25 under 5 years. I consider this was well worth while. At each School I asked the Head Teacher to let parents of children under 5 know when the session would be held. This I did so that parents, who were unable to take their young children to Welfare Centres, might have an opportunity of having their children immunised. As a consequence 25 children attended.

Welfare Centres

82 children received treatment, 79 under 5 and 3 between 5 - 15 years. Sessions were held at 6 different Centres throughout the District.

Private Practitioners immunised 13 children under 5 years. These were done under the County Council scheme. The number of children done privately, and for which no returns were made, is difficult to estimate and these are not included in my figures.

Thus altogether 173 children were immunised during the year. 117 under 5 years and 56 between 5 - 15 years.

I append details.

Schools	Under 5.	5 - 15 years
Gt. Linford	6	3
Hanslope	3	1
Moulsoe	2	7
Newport Pagnell	3	1
North Crawley	2	1
Old Bradwell	3	-
Olney	4	35
Wavendon	2	5
	25	53

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION (Contd)

Welfare Centres	Under 5	5 - 15 years
Castlethorpe	7	2
Lavendon	8	1
Newport Pagnell	9	
Olney	24	
Woburn Sands	28	
New Bradwell	3	
	79	3
Immunised privately by :		
Dr. Lufkin	2	
Dr. Bull	3	
Dr. Fildes	1	
Dr. Gleave	5	
Dr. Love	2	
	13.	
Grand Total	117.	56

This concludes my Report. I am much indebted to Mr. Casstles and Mr. Lockwood your Inspectors and Surveyors, and to Mr. Stapleton your Clerk for the valuable help they have given me in compiling this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

CHAS. H. F. BAILEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

April 14th, 1947.